

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously Presented)

A method of inflating and launching a balloon, comprising the steps of:
opening a cover on a case and extending at least one panel from the case
to provide a launch platform on which an uninflated balloon can be placed;
securing a launch bag to said launch platform;
inserting an uninflated balloon in said launch bag to secure said uninflated
balloon to said launch platform; and
controllably releasing said balloon from said launch bag.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 wherein the case
provides an enclosed space for the storage and transport of said uninflated balloon.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 further comprising the
step of supporting the case by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said
legs may be extended from the case prior to opening the cover.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented)

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9 wherein said launch
bag includes an elastic material.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein said launch
bag is releasably secured to said launch platform.

Claim 14-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, further comprising the step of supporting the case by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs fold out from the back of the case and the back of the case is located on a side of the case that is opposite the cover.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes at least one wheel that permits transportation of the case.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be secured to a solid structure.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein the case includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be lifted.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 9, wherein at least a first and a second panel are extended to provide the launch platform. further comprising the step of extending another panel from the case to provide the launch platform on which the uninflated balloon can be placed.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 25, wherein at least one of the panels extends beyond the end of the balloon.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented):

A method of inflating and launching a balloon, comprising the steps of:

securing a launch bag that includes an elastic material to a launch site; inserting an uninflated balloon in said launch bag to secure said uninflated balloon to said launch site; and controllably releasing said balloon from said launch bag.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27 wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that provides an enclosed space for the storage and transport of said uninflated balloon.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27 wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that is supported by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs may be extended from the case prior to opening a cover of the case.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein said launch bag is releasably secured to said launch site.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that is supported by extending a plurality of legs from the case, wherein said legs fold out from the back of the case and the back of the case is located on a side of the case that is opposite the cover.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes at least one wheel that permits transportation of the case.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be secured to a solid structure.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by opening a case that includes a handle and at least one fitting that enables the case to be lifted.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented):

The method of inflating and launching a balloon of claim 27, wherein the launch site includes a launch platform that is provided, at least in part, by extending a first and a second panel from an open case.